" (*b*) & (*c*) It is presumed that by Andhras, the hon. Member means to include those from Rayalaseema also; if so, the number of "Andhras" posted is 5, of whom two come from Rayalaseema; and

" (*d*) Sixteen Deputy Collectors from this Province have been deputed to the Hyderabad State on special duty. Eight Tahsildars have also been deputed to act as Deputy Collectors in the State. Of these 24 officers, 22 are Andhras, 10 of whom are from Rayalaseema."

Shortage of petrol at the petrol storage.

* 189 *Q*.—SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAN CHETTIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of 5,000 gallons of petrol at the petrol storage;

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken so far;

(*c*) how many cars are lying idle in the garage;

(*d*) what is the reason for their being idle;

(*e*) in how many buses the covers and cushions of the seats are torn, thereby exhibiting their inner contents;

(*f*) whether sudden increase in fares is due to any loss incurred by the Transport Department;

(*g*) whether he is aware of the fact that due to the enhanced fares there is more crowding and suffocation in the already over-crowded trams, and people are hanging on all sides of the trams; and

(*h*) whether he proposes to have the experience of travelling in the Government buses at least for two days and personally come to know the difficulties of the travelling public?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" (*a*) The hon. Member apparently refers to the petrol stored in the petrol pumps in charge of the Transport Department. No shortage has so far been reported from the pumps except the shortage which is inevitable on account of evaporation.

" (*b*) The question does not arise in view of the answer to clause (*a*) above.

" (*c*) & (*d*) The hon. Member apparently refers to spare buses which are kept in reserve to be used in emergencies or for special trips. The actual number that may be in reserve may vary from time to time; but it may not exceed the prescribed maximum of 40 reserve buses.

" (*e*) The Government have no information.

" (*f*) The increase in fares was only on certain routes and this was due to the adoption of a standardized rate in accordance with the Government Order issued in November 1947 after due publication.

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"(g) Overcrowding in trams is not peculiar and it existed even before the introduction of standardized bus fares.

"(h) The hon. Member's suggestion will be borne in mind."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Are the Government aware, Sir, of the inconvenience caused to the public on account of the bus strike in the City since yesterday?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"We are aware, and more than aware, of the difficulties caused by the strike."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, what action have the Government taken up till now, or propose to take, to see that the strike is ended?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—"What has this question to do with petrol shortage?"

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"The question is not confined to petrol shortage alone; buses also are included."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"One hundred buses are being run now. Up to now, another forty buses must have been put on the road. So, one hundred and forty buses are to-day running (in the afternoon). The usual number of buses that run generally is about 230 or 240. We are only down by 90 buses to-day."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"With reference to the answer to clause (e), may I know whether this Government are really aware of the very unsatisfactory condition of the cushions of the seats? Many of the seats are torn and people cannot sit on them."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Various firms were asked to do the body building work. Some firms did not do the work properly. We have seen to it that they are all repaired."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"With reference to the answer to clause (f), may I know, Sir, whether the Government have taken steps to reconsider the fares with reference to the stages, and refix the stages as promised the other day?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Yes, Sir. The Transport Commissioner's report was received by the Government. It is under examination now."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Have the firms which did the body building work, been paid?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"No, Sir. The claims are under scrutiny. We have not paid the full sum due to them."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Sir, is not the bus transport a constant headache to Government?" (Laughter.)

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The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" It is a constant headache to Government and a constant stomach ache to the Opposition Leader." (More laughter.)

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" With reference to the answer to clause (h), will the Hon. Minister please tell us when did he have the experience of travelling in the Government buses, and what his experience is? "

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Some time back I travelled. I do not remember the exact date. I have travelled in some of the Government buses, and my experience is very favourable."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I know, Sir, whether the travelling was done after due notice to the workers concerned? "

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Notice was given only to the Transport Officers, but not to the drivers and conductors."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" May I make a suggestion that Ministers travel in buses and not in cars provided for them by Government? " (Laughter.)

(No answer.)

Recommendations of the Industrial Planning Committee.

* 190 Q.—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have considered the recommendations of the Industrial Planning Committee;

(b) what the orders of the Government on those recommendations are;

(c) what steps the Government have taken to amend the State Aid to Industries Act, and in what particulars;

(d) whether the Industrial Financing Corporation is to be established, and if so, the lines on which such a Corporation is to be organized; and

(e) how the Government propose to promote industrialization in the tracts of this Province where the possibilities for starting industries are great?

The Hon. Sri H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (a) & (b) The recommendations of the Industrial Planning Committee are under examination by the departments of the Secretariat and the heads of departments and it will take some time before plans are drawn up to implement these recommendations.

" (c) The matter is under consideration.

" (d) Yes. The Corporation will be registered as a Joint Stock Company under the Indian Companies Act, 1913, with a capital of Rupees two crores.